

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY )	ORDER APPROVING
MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO., A )	PURCHASED GAS
DIVISION OF MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC. )	ADJUSTMENTS
FOR APPROVAL OF A PURCHASED GAS )	
COST ADJUSTMENT CHANGE FOR RATE 88 )	NG97-002
AND EAST RIVER SYSTEM PURCHASED GAS )	
COST ADJUSTMENT RATE 89 TARIFFS )	

On February 26, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) to modify its existing Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) tariffs to reflect monthly adjustments to the current gas cost portion of the PGA based on the cost of gas to be in effect during the month. The proposed effective date for the change is May 1, 1997.

Specific approval is sought for the following sheets of MDU's tariff:

Section No. 3:        2nd Revised Sheet No. 29  
                          1st Revised Sheet Nos. 29.1 and 29.2  
                          2nd Revised Sheet Nos. 29.3 and 29.4  
                          1st Revised Sheet No. 29.5  
                          3rd Revised Sheet No. 30  
                          2nd Revised Sheet No. 30.1  
                          3rd Revised Sheet Nos. 30.2 and 30.3  
                          2nd Revised Sheet No. 30.4  
                          Original Sheet No. 30.5

Further, MDU sought approval of collection of prepaid commodity charges incurred in the delivery of gas into storage.

At its regularly scheduled April 1, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered MDU's application. Commission Staff recommended approval with an effective date of May 1, 1997.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-2, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-25. Further, the Commission finds that these rates are just and reasonable and shall be approved. It is therefore

ORDERED, that MDU's proposal to modify its existing PGA tariffs to reflect monthly adjustments to the current gas cost portion of the PGA based on the cost of gas shall be approved; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that MDU shall be allowed to recover its prepaid commodity charges incurred in the delivery of gas into storage.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1997.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: Alvin Kalbo

Date: 4/10/97

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder  
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner